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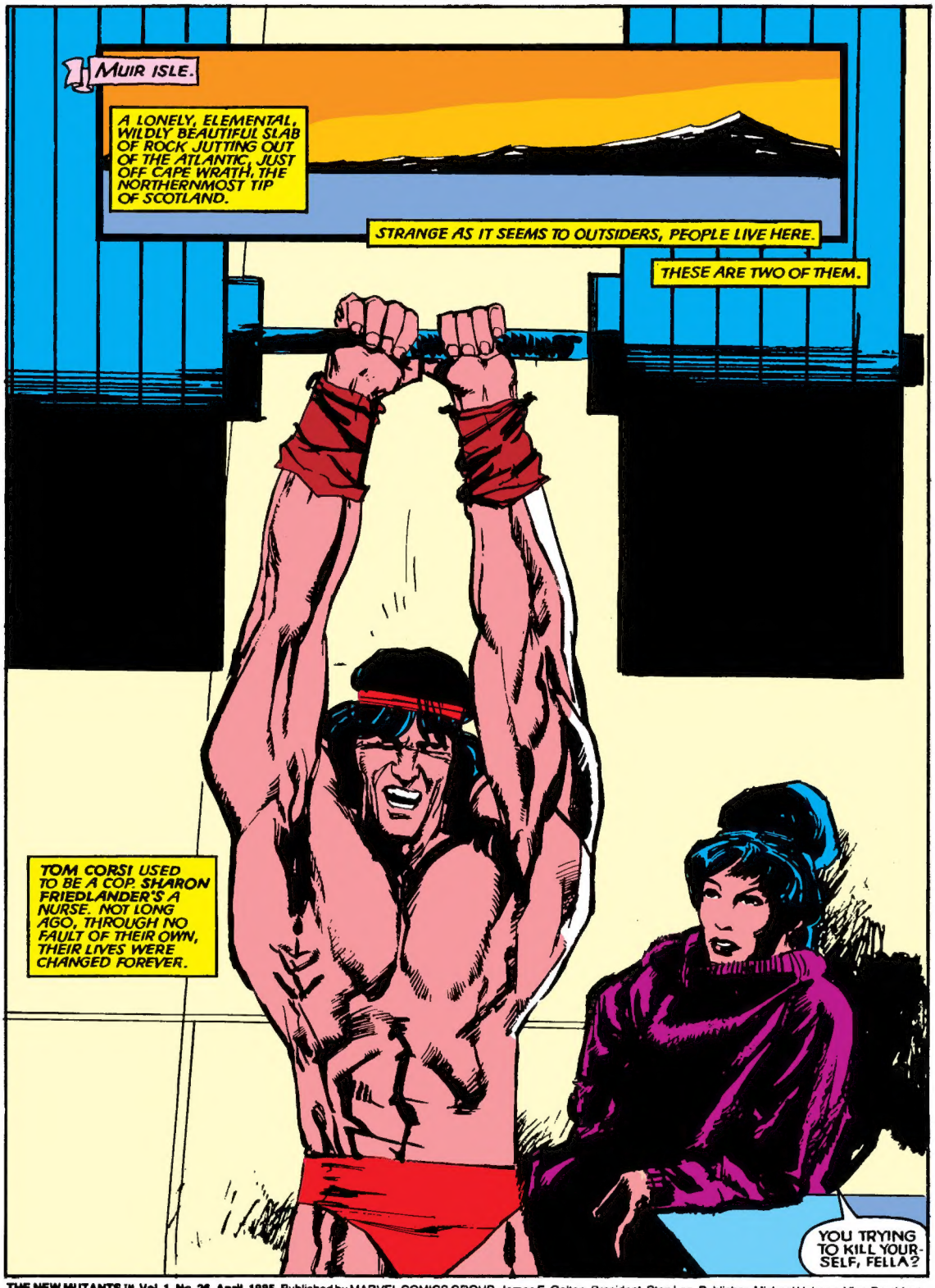
THE NEW
MUTANTS
Bill Sienkiewicz 1984


MUIR ISLE.
A LONELY, ELEMENTAL, WILDLY BEAUTIFUL SLAB OF ROCK JUTTING OUT OF THE ATLANTIC, JUST OFF CAPE WRATH, THE NORTHERNMOST TIP OF SCOTLAND.
STRANGE AS IT SEEMS TO OUTSIDERS, PEOPLE LIVE HERE.
THESE ARE TWO OF THEM.
TOM CORSI USED TO BE A COP. SHARON FRIEDLANDER'S A NURSE. NOT LONG AGO, THROUGH NO FAULT OF THEIR OWN, THEIR LIVES WERE CHANGED FOREVER.
YOU TRYING TO KILL YOURSELF, FELLA?

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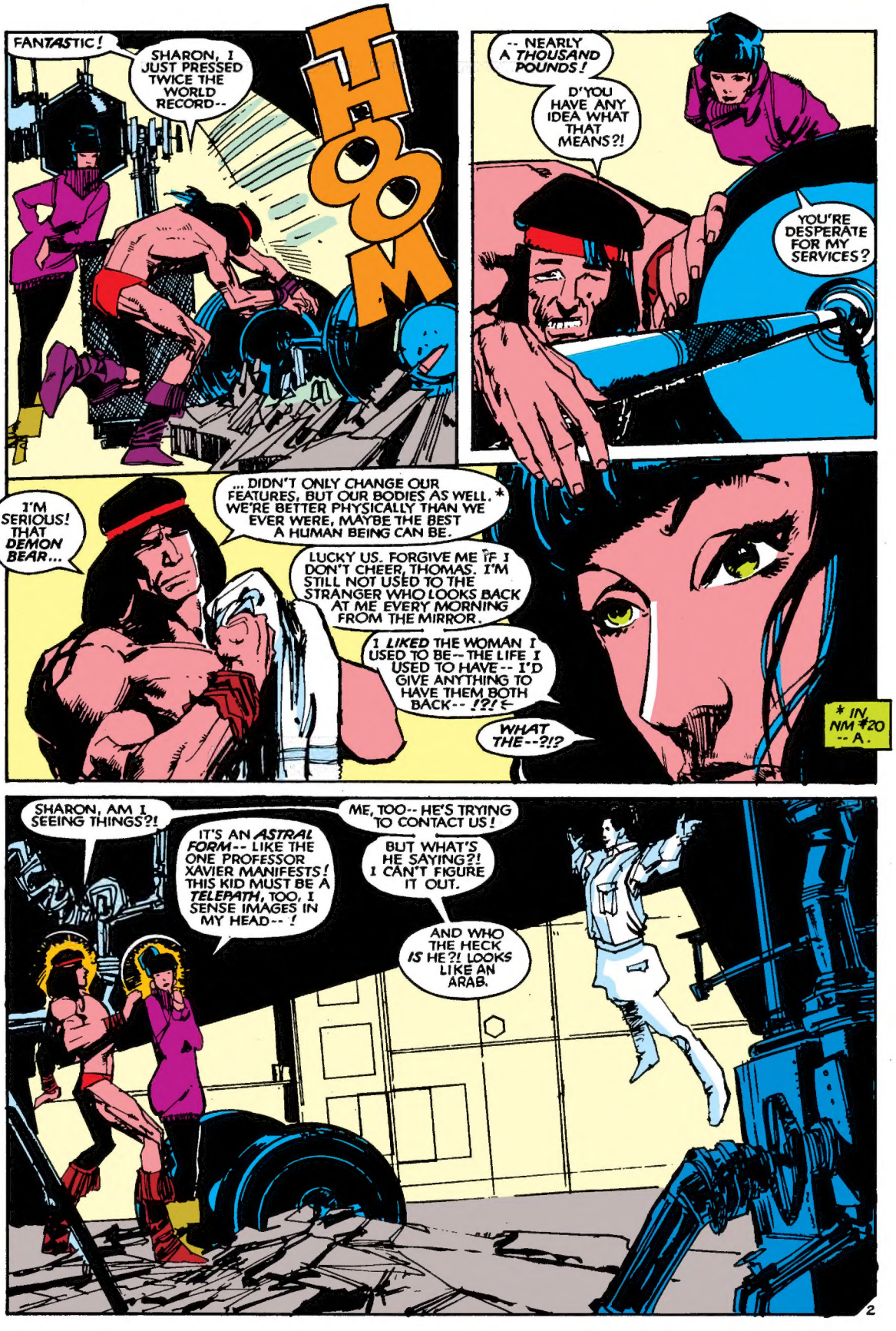
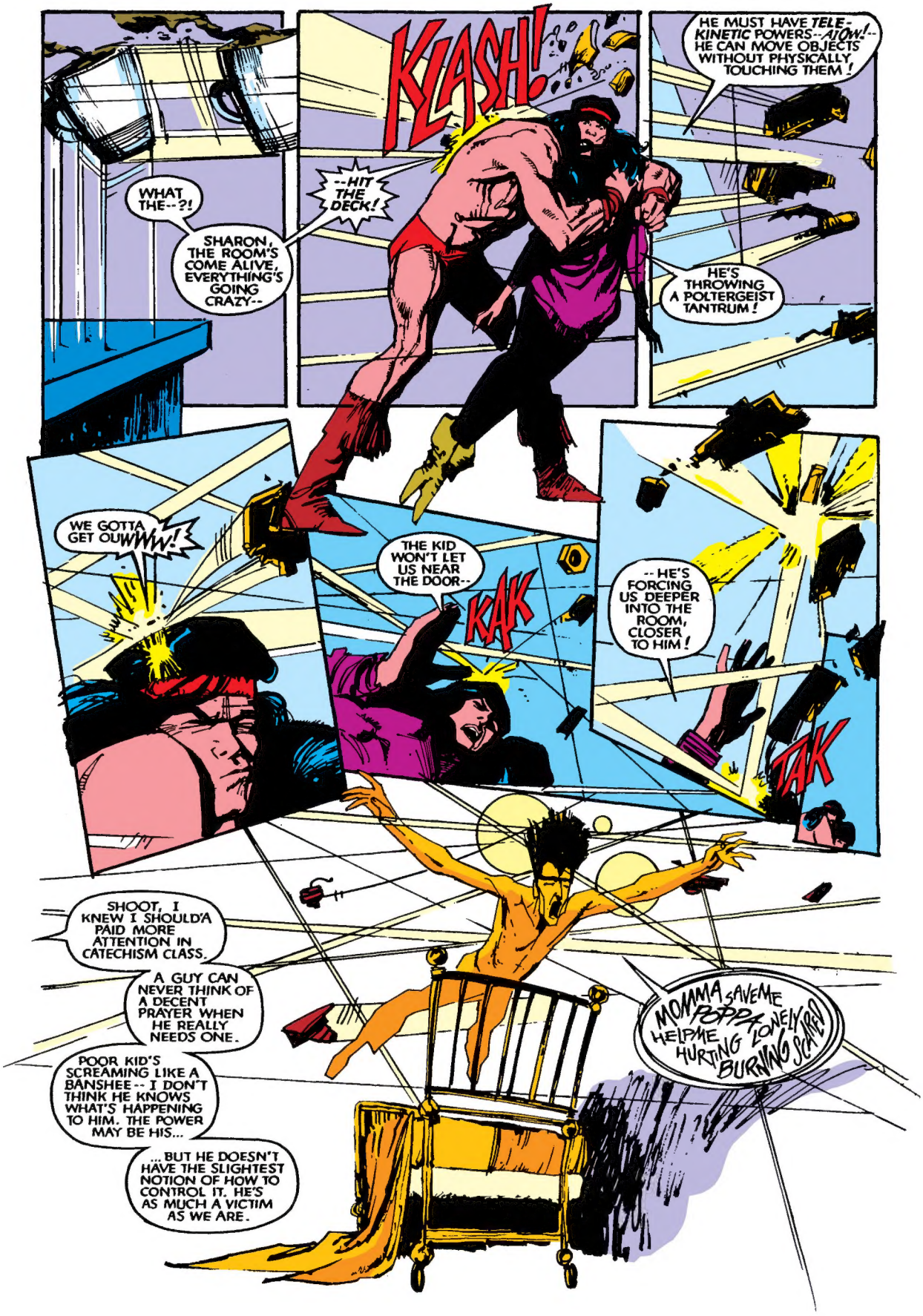
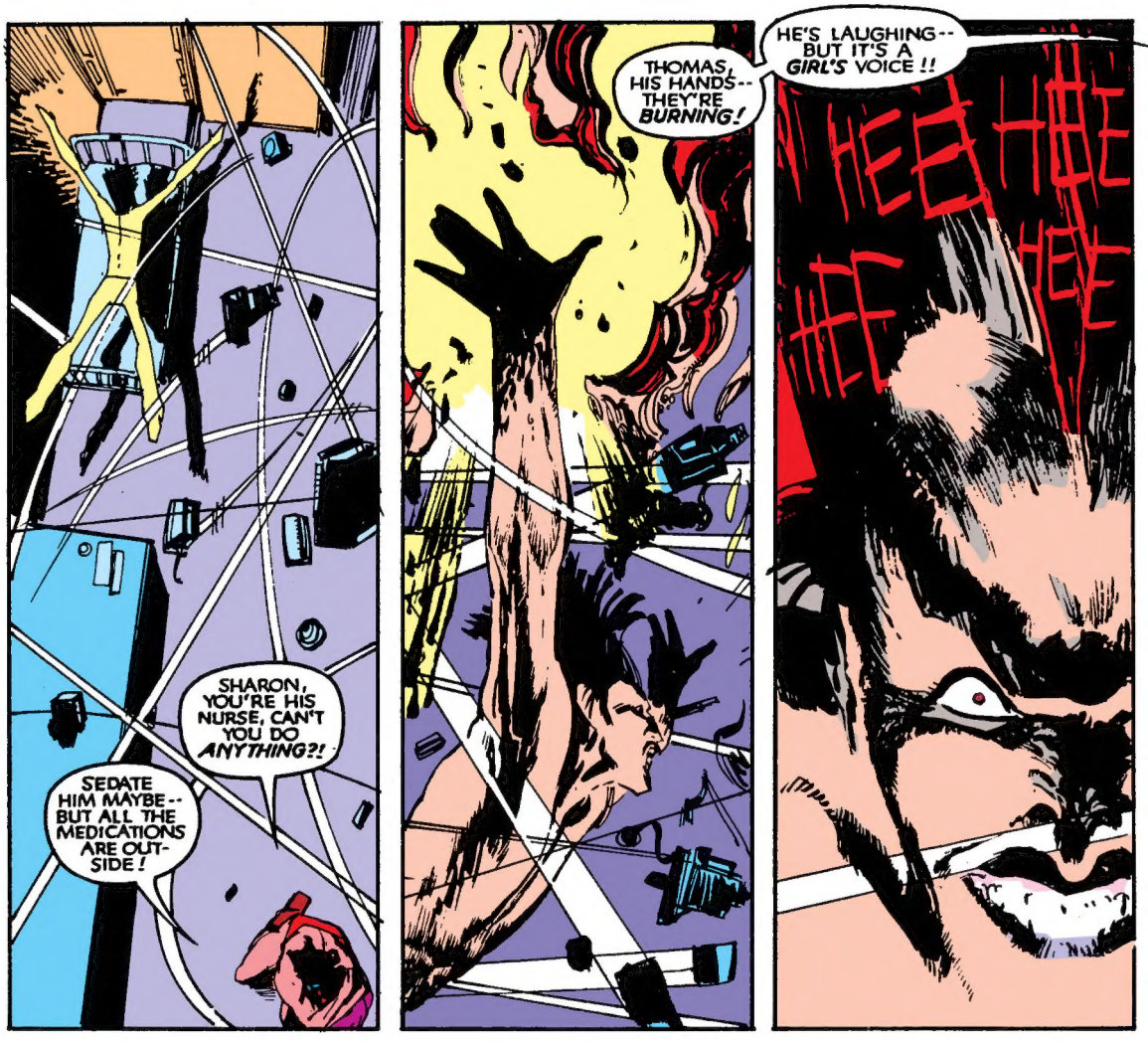

FANTASTIC!
SHARON, I JUST PRESSED TWICE THE WORLD RECORD--
THOOM
-- NEARLY A THOUSAND POUNDS!
D'YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT THAT MEANS?!
YOU'RE DESPERATE FOR MY SERVICES?
I'M SERIOUS! THAT DEMON BEAR...
... DIDN'T ONLY CHANGE OUR FEATURES, BUT OUR BODIES AS WELL.* WE'RE BETTER PHYSICALLY THAN WE EVER WERE, MAYBE THE BEST A HUMAN BEING CAN BE.
LUCKY US. FORGIVE ME IF I DON'T CHEER, THOMAS. I'M STILL NOT USED TO THE STRANGER WHO LOOKS BACK AT ME EVERY MORNING FROM THE MIRROR.
I LIKED THE WOMAN I USED TO BE-- THE LIFE I USED TO HAVE-- I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO HAVE THEM BOTH BACK-- !?!
WHAT THE--?!?
* IN NM #20 -- A.
SHARON, AM I SEEING THINGS?!
IT'S AN ASTRAL FORM-- LIKE THE ONE PROFESSOR XAVIER MANIFESTS! THIS KID MUST BE A TELEPATH, TOO, I SENSE IMAGES IN MY HEAD-- !
ME, TOO-- HE'S TRYING TO CONTACT US!
BUT WHAT'S HE SAYING?! I CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT.
AND WHO THE HECK IS HE?! LOOKS LIKE AN ARAB.

TOM, HE'S SCREAMING!
HE VANISHED!!
KLANGALANG
THE ALARM--!
DAVID'S ROOM!!
HIS DOOR'S SEALED-- I CAN'T FREE THE LOCKS, THEY'RE ALL BEING JAMMED!
NO PROBLEM.
WOW! ON THE BEST DAY OF MY LIFE, I COULD NEVER HAVE DONE THIS --OR EVEN COME CLOSE!
HOLY--!
HELP ME!
UNCA DAN, POPPA, MOMMA-- I'M HURTING-- SOMEBODY, ANYBODY, HELP ME, SAVE ME, MAKE IT STOP-- PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!!!


WHAT THE--?!
SHARON, THE ROOM'S COME ALIVE, EVERYTHING'S GOING CRAZY--
KLASH!
--HIT THE DECK!
HE MUST HAVE TELE-KINETIC POWERS--AIOW!--HE CAN MOVE OBJECTS WITHOUT PHYSICALLY TOUCHING THEM!
HE'S THROWING A POLTERGEIST TANTRUM!
WE GOTTA GET OUWWW!
THE KID WON'T LET US NEAR THE DOOR--
KAK
--HE'S FORCING US DEEPER INTO THE ROOM, CLOSER TO HIM!
TAK
SHOOT, I KNEW I SHOULD'A PAID MORE ATTENTION IN CATECHISM CLASS.
A GUY CAN NEVER THINK OF A DECENT PRAYER WHEN HE REALLY NEEDS ONE.
POOR KID'S SCREAMING LIKE A BANSHEE-- I DON'T THINK HE KNOWS WHAT'S HAPPENING TO HIM. THE POWER MAY BE HIS...
... BUT HE DOESN'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST NOTION OF HOW TO CONTROL IT. HE'S AS MUCH A VICTIM AS WE ARE.
MOMMA SAVE ME POPPA HELP ME HURTING LONELY BURNING SCARED


SHARON, YOU'RE HIS NURSE, CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING?!
SEDATE HIM MAYBE-- BUT ALL THE MEDICATIONS ARE OUT-SIDE!
THOMAS, HIS HANDS-- THEY'RE BURNING!
HE'S LAUGHING-- BUT IT'S A GIRL'S VOICE!!
HEE HEE HEE HEE
I DON'T LIKE THE WAY HE'S LOOKING AT US!
WHY US, LORD, AIN'T WE BEEN THROUGH ENOUGH?! FIRST THAT DEMON BEAR, NOW THIS.
IT AIN'T FAIR.

STAN LEE *presents...*

LEGION

VVTOOOOM

The MORNING OF THE FOLLOWING DAY...

...AN EBONY AIRCRAFT STREAKS OUT OF THE STILL-DARK WESTERN SKY TO A LANDING ON MUIR ISLE.

IT'S ONE OF A KIND, A CUSTOM-BUILT VERSION OF AMERICA'S SR-71 BLACKBIRD ULTRA-HIGH PERFORMANCE SPYPLANE. IT BELONGS TO THE MAN MOIRA MacTAGGERT ONCE LOVED WITH ALL HER HEART--AND STILL CARES FOR DEEPLY.

YEARS AGO, WHEN SHE WALKED OUT OF **CHARLES XAVIER'S** LIFE WITHOUT EXPLANATION, SHE BROKE HIS HEART. SHE HURT HIM AS BADLY AS A PERSON COULD.

TODAY, SHE FEARS SHE WILL DO WORSE.

A MOMENT OF TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY IN THE LIVES OF **PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER** AND HIS NOVICE STUDENTS, THE **NEW MUTANTS**...

AS CHRONICLED BY
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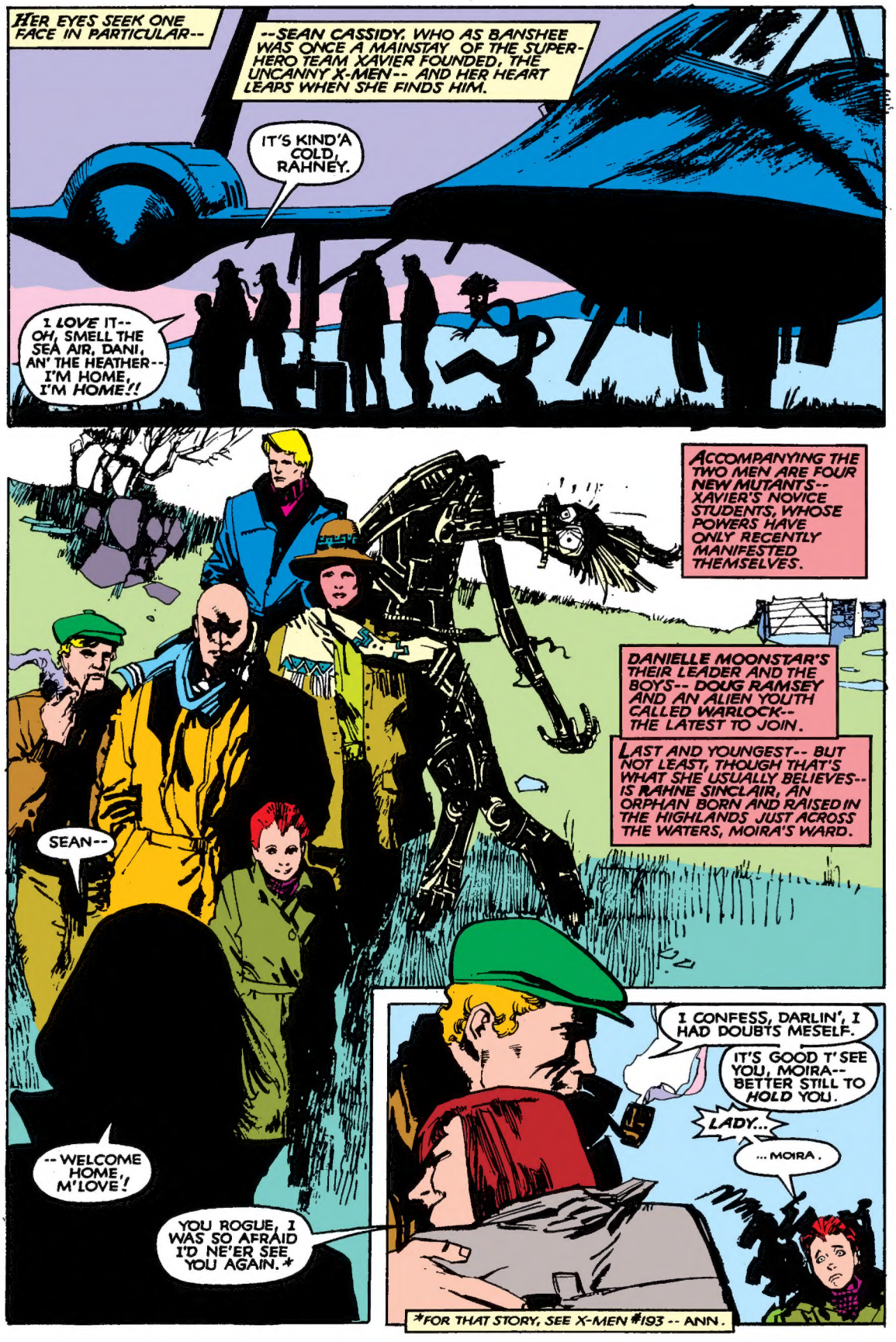
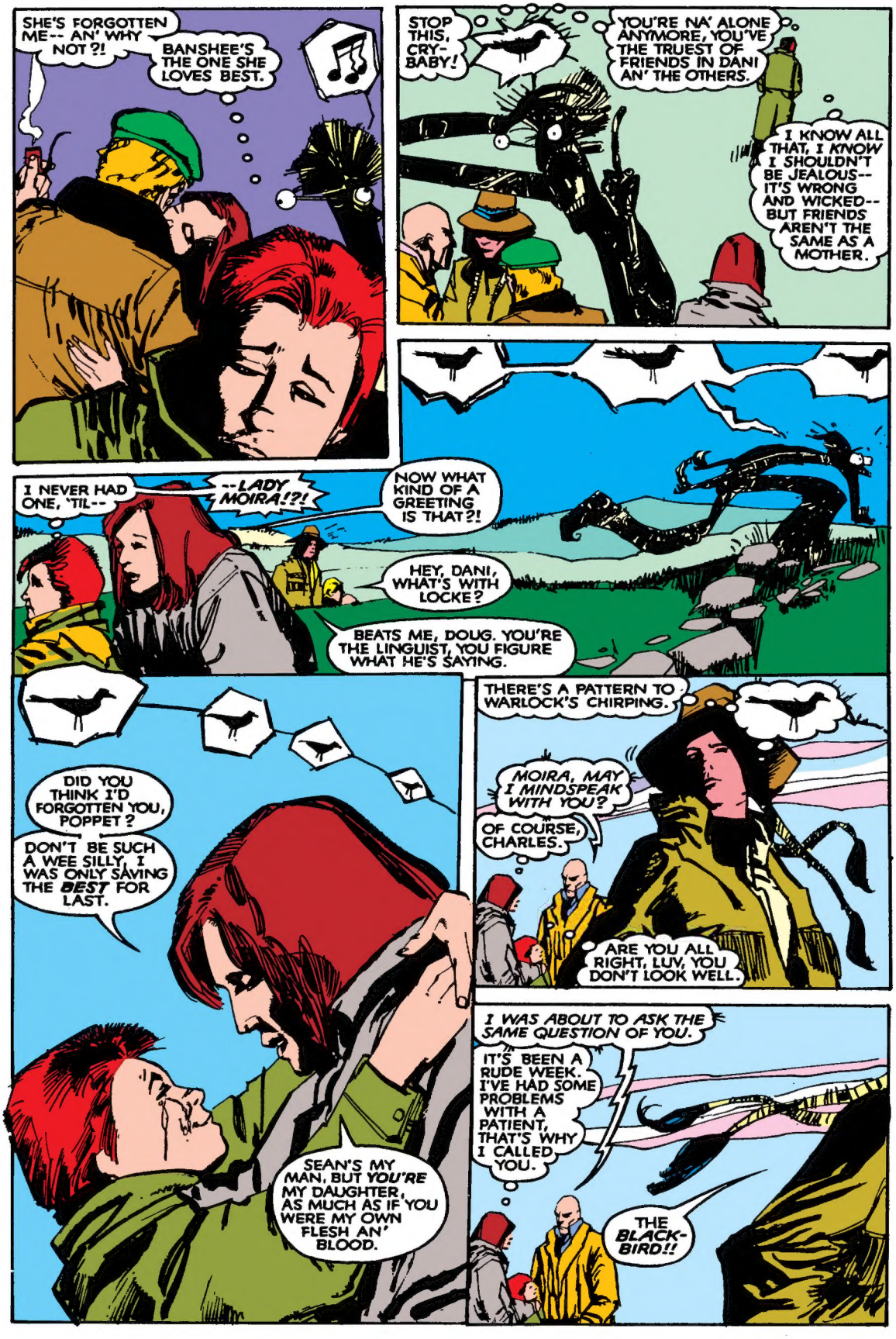
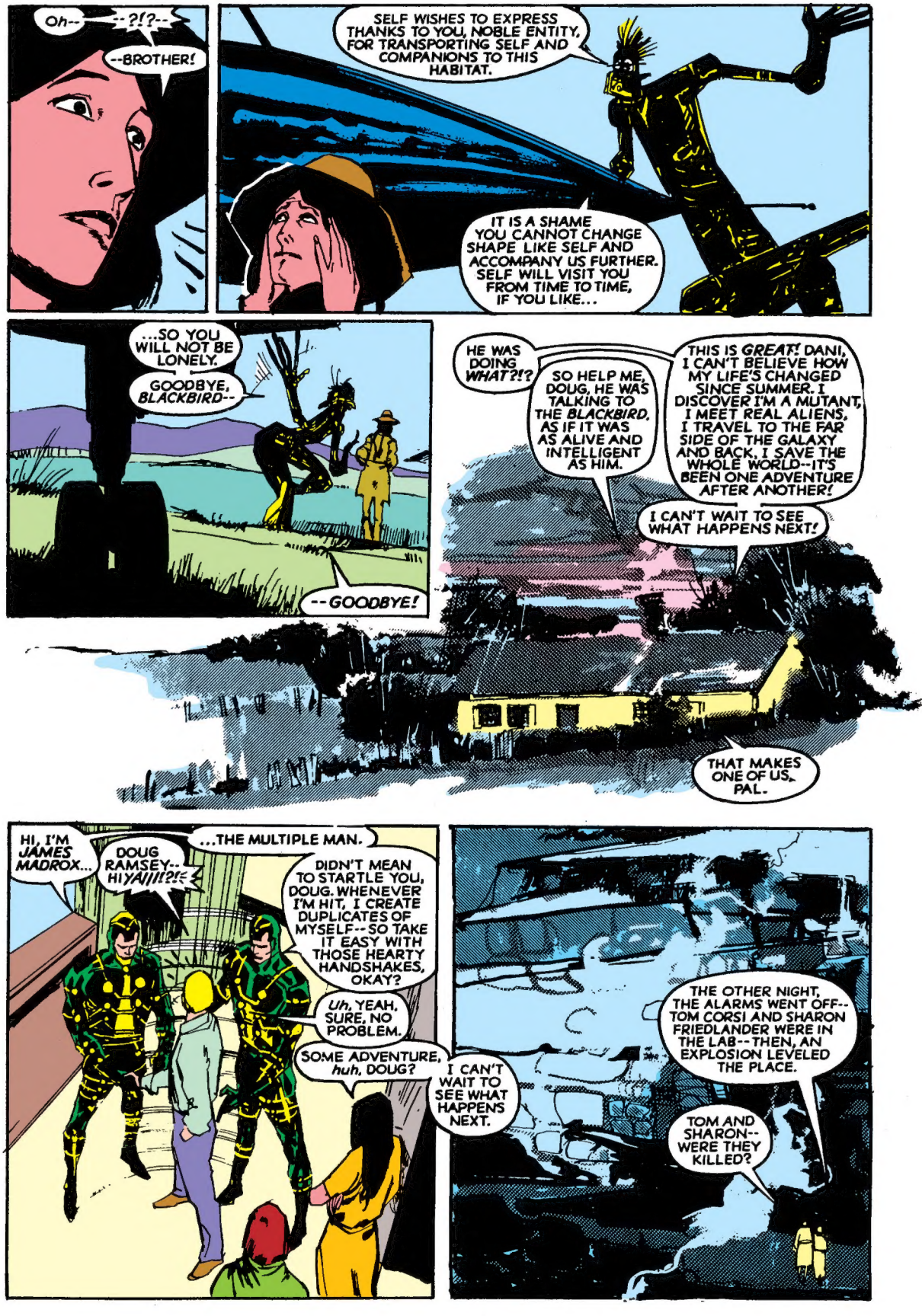
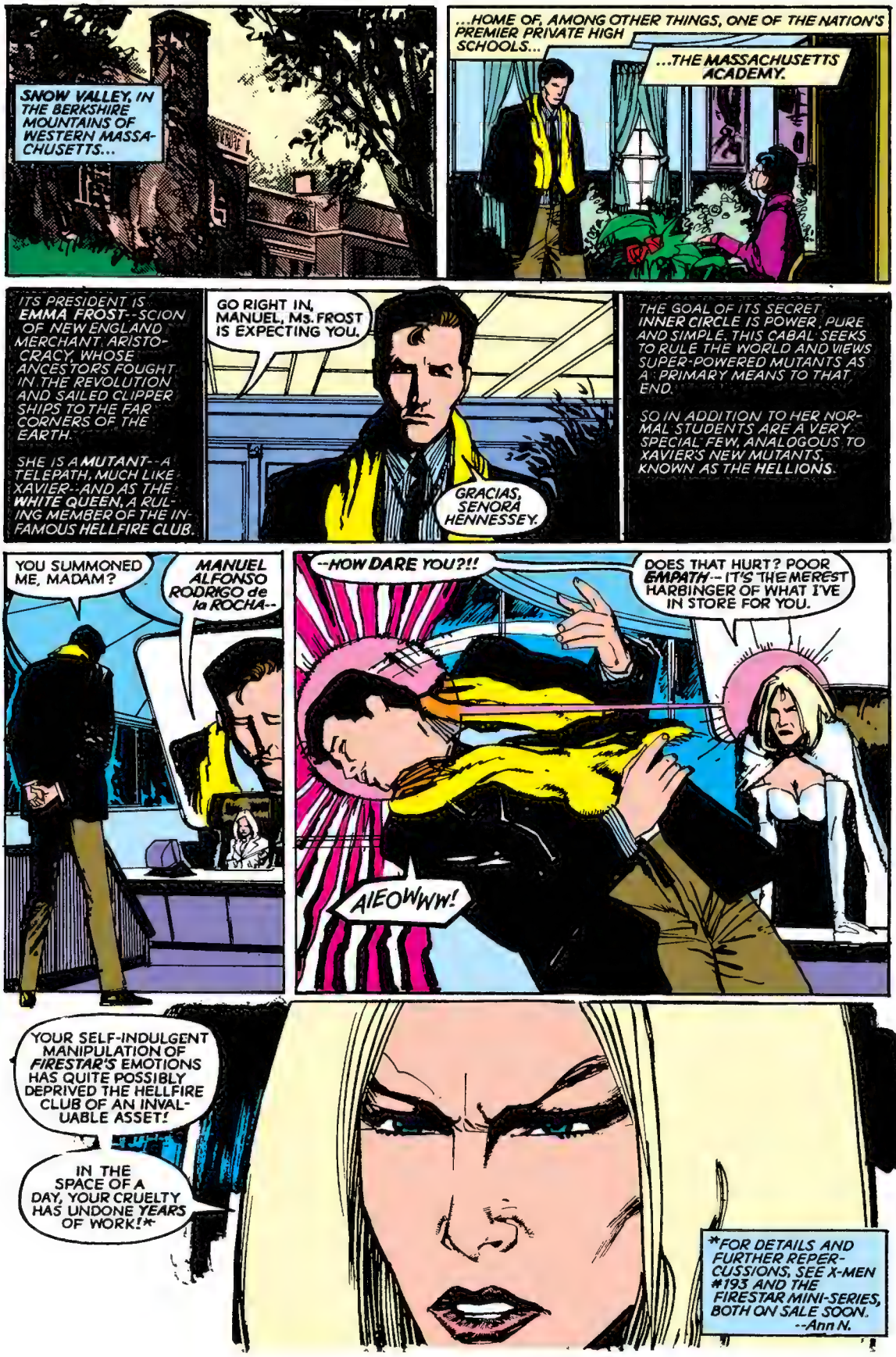
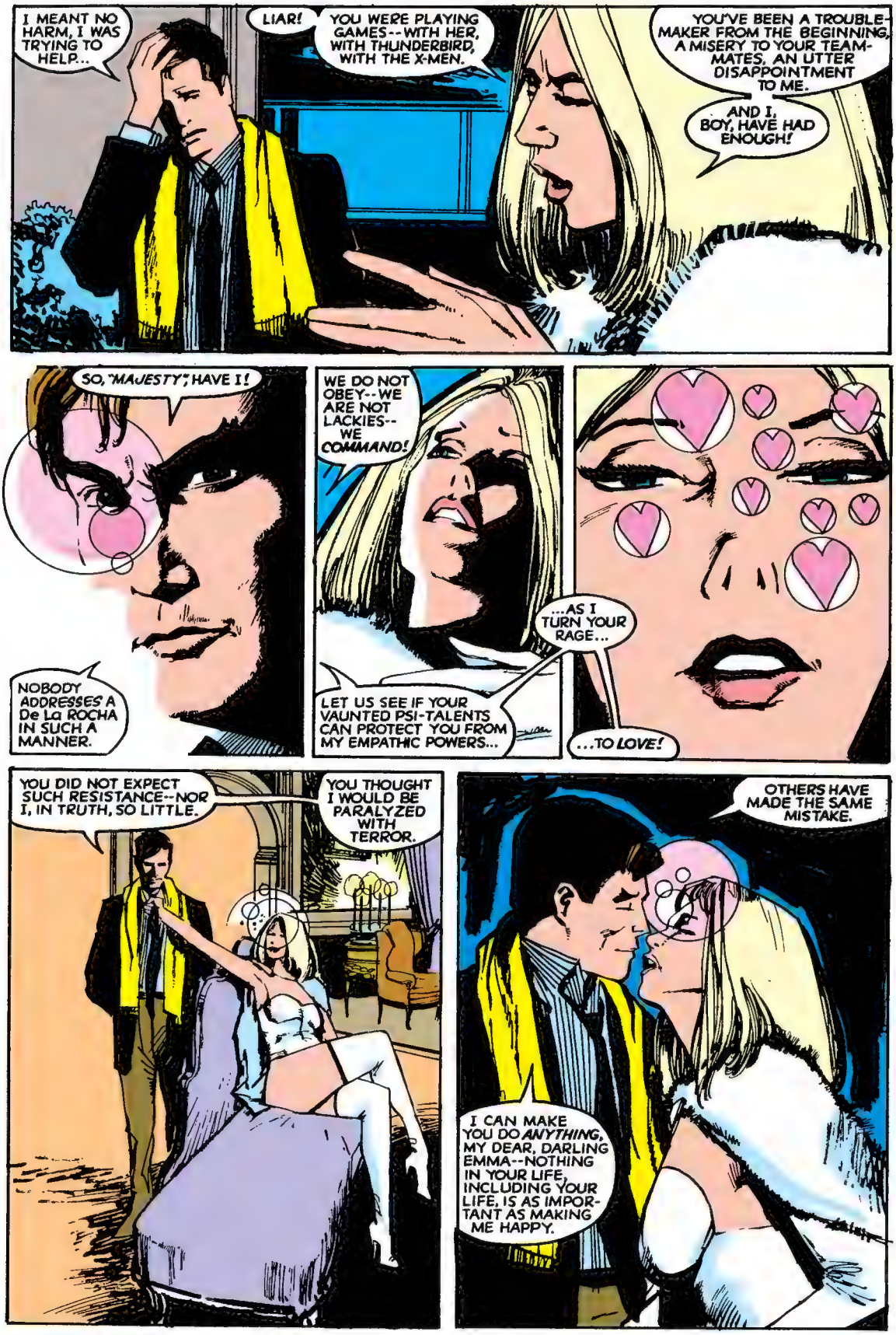

HER EYES SEEK ONE FACE IN PARTICULAR--
--SEAN CASSIDY, WHO AS BANSHEE WAS ONCE A MAINSTAY OF THE SUPER-HERO TEAM XAVIER FOUNDED, THE UNCANNY X-MEN-- AND HER HEART LEAPS WHEN SHE FINDS HIM.
IT'S KIND'A COLD, RAHNEY.
I LOVE IT-- OH, SMELL THE SEA AIR, DANI, AN' THE HEATHER-- I'M HOME, I'M HOME!!
ACCOMPANYING THE TWO MEN ARE FOUR NEW MUTANTS-- XAVIER'S NOVICE STUDENTS, WHOSE POWERS HAVE ONLY RECENTLY MANIFESTED THEMSELVES.
DANIELLE MOONSTAR'S THEIR LEADER AND THE BOYS-- DOUG RAMSEY AND AN ALIEN YOUTH CALLED WARLOCK-- THE LATEST TO JOIN.
LAST AND YOUNGEST-- BUT NOT LEAST, THOUGH THAT'S WHAT SHE USUALLY BELIEVES-- IS RAHNE SINCLAIR, AN ORPHAN BORN AND RAISED IN THE HIGHLANDS JUST ACROSS THE WATERS, MOIRA'S WARD.
SEAN--
-- WELCOME HOME, M'LOVE!
YOU ROGUE, I WAS SO AFRAID I'D NE'ER SEE YOU AGAIN.*
I CONFESS, DARLIN', I HAD DOUBTS MESELF.
IT'S GOOD T' SEE YOU, MOIRA-- BETTER STILL TO HOLD YOU.
LADY...
... MOIRA.
*FOR THAT STORY, SEE X-MEN #193 -- ANN.

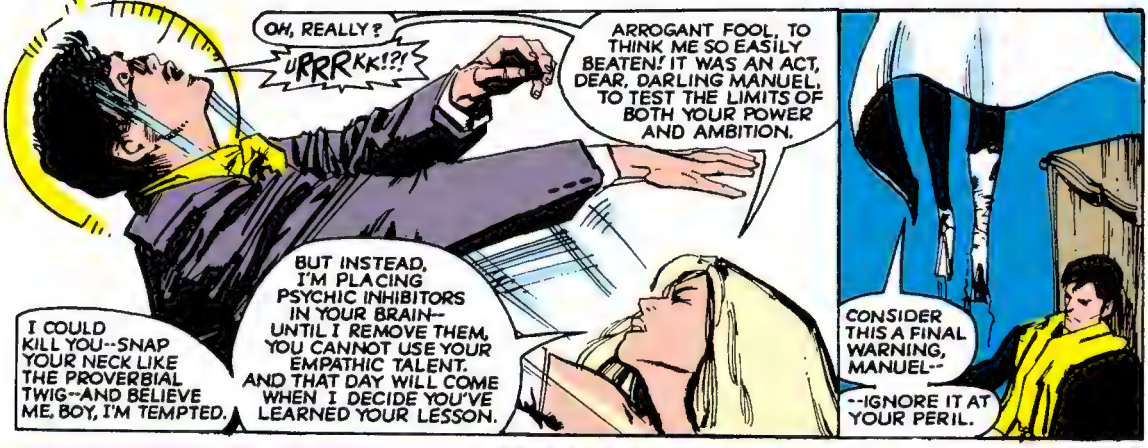

SHE'S FORGOTTEN ME-- AN' WHY NOT?!
BANSHEE'S THE ONE SHE LOVES BEST.
STOP THIS, CRY-BABY!
YOU'RE NA' ALONE ANYMORE, YOU'VE THE TRUEST OF FRIENDS IN DANI AN' THE OTHERS.
I KNOW ALL THAT, I KNOW I SHOULDN'T BE JEALOUS-- IT'S WRONG AND WICKED-- BUT FRIENDS AREN'T THE SAME AS A MOTHER.
I NEVER HAD ONE, 'TIL--
--LADY MOIRA!?!
NOW WHAT KIND OF A GREETING IS THAT?!
HEY, DANI, WHAT'S WITH LOCKE?
BEATS ME, DOUG. YOU'RE THE LINGUIST, YOU FIGURE WHAT HE'S SAYING.
DID YOU THINK I'D FORGOTTEN YOU, POPPET?
DON'T BE SUCH A WEE SILLY, I WAS ONLY SAVING THE BEST FOR LAST.
SEAN'S MY MAN, BUT YOU'RE MY DAUGHTER, AS MUCH AS IF YOU WERE MY OWN FLESH AN' BLOOD.
THERE'S A PATTERN TO WARLOCK'S CHIRPING.
MOIRA, MAY I MINDSPEAK WITH YOU?
OF COURSE, CHARLES.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, LUV, YOU DON'T LOOK WELL.
I WAS ABOUT TO ASK THE SAME QUESTION OF YOU.
IT'S BEEN A RUDE WEEK. I'VE HAD SOME PROBLEMS WITH A PATIENT, THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU.
THE BLACK-BIRD!!

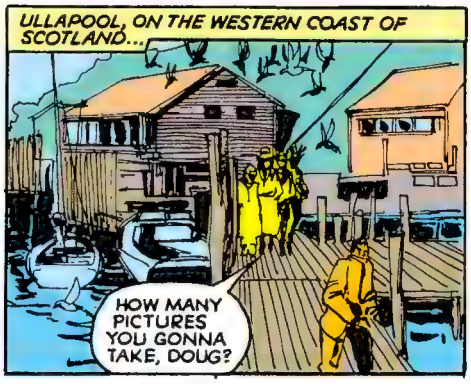

Oh--
--?!?--
--BROTHER!
SELF WISHES TO EXPRESS THANKS TO YOU, NOBLE ENTITY, FOR TRANSPORTING SELF AND COMPANIONS TO THIS HABITAT.
IT IS A SHAME YOU CANNOT CHANGE SHAPE LIKE SELF AND ACCOMPANY US FURTHER. SELF WILL VISIT YOU FROM TIME TO TIME, IF YOU LIKE...
...SO YOU WILL NOT BE LONELY.
GOODBYE, BLACKBIRD--
--GOODBYE!
HE WAS DOING WHAT?!?
SO HELP ME, DOUG, HE WAS TALKING TO THE BLACKBIRD, AS IF IT WAS AS ALIVE AND INTELLIGENT AS HIM.
THIS IS GREAT! DANI, I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW MY LIFE'S CHANGED SINCE SUMMER. I DISCOVER I'M A MUTANT, I MEET REAL ALIENS, I TRAVEL TO THE FAR SIDE OF THE GALAXY AND BACK, I SAVE THE WHOLE WORLD--IT'S BEEN ONE ADVENTURE AFTER ANOTHER!
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT!
THAT MAKES ONE OF US, PAL.
HI, I'M JAMES MADROX...
DOUG RAMSEY--HIYA!!!?!
...THE MULTIPLE MAN.
DIDN'T MEAN TO STARTLE YOU, DOUG. WHENEVER I'M HIT, I CREATE DUPLICATES OF MYSELF--SO TAKE IT EASY WITH THOSE HEARTY HANDSHAKES, OKAY?
Uh, YEAH, SURE, NO PROBLEM.
SOME ADVENTURE, huh, DOUG?
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.
THE OTHER NIGHT, THE ALARMS WENT OFF--TOM CORSI AND SHARON FRIEDLANDER WERE IN THE LAB--THEN, AN EXPLOSION LEVELED THE PLACE.
TOM AND SHARON--WERE THEY KILLED?

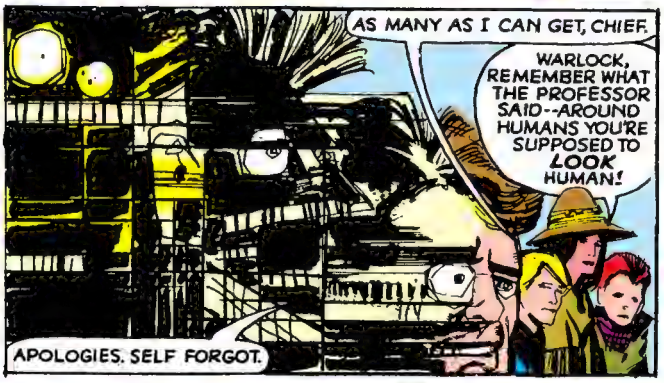
PHYSICALLY, NOT EVEN TOUCHED. JAMIE AND I FOUND THEM IN THIS CATATONIC STATE--BODIES UNHARMED, MINDS COMPLETELY GONE.
WHAT--WHO--WAS THE CAUSE?
IN A SENSE, CHARLES, I SUPPOSE I AM.
GABY?
GABRIELLE HALLER?!?
IT'S BEEN SO LONG.
YOU'RE AS LOVELY AS EVER.
AND YOU'VE BECOME A SILVER-TONGUED DEVIL.
IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU.
I COULD WISH FOR PLEASANTER CIRCUMSTANCES...
MY SON, DAVID, IS MOIRA'S PATIENT, THE REASON FOR YOUR SUMMONS.
HE'S AUTISTIC--HAS BEEN SINCE HE WAS TEN--HIS SCHIZOPHRENIC WITHDRAWAL FROM REALITY SO COMPLETE THAT NO ONE--
--NOT ME, NOT ANY OTHER PHYSICIAN GABY'S TURNED TO OVER THE YEARS--HAS BEEN ABLE TO REACH HIM.
WHY DID YOU WAIT SO LONG TO CALL ME?! GABY, I COULD HAVE HELPED THE BOY AS I DID YOU!
THERE WERE... PERSONAL CONSIDERATIONS. I DIDN'T WANT YOU INVOLVED.
NOW I'VE NO CHOICE. HELP MY SON, CHARLES, YOU'RE MY LAST HOPE.
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN YOUR FIRST.
WHAT IS SHE HIDING?! EMBARRASSMENT, BECAUSE WE WERE ONCE LOVERS? FEAR? SHAME? I NEED TO KNOW--I SENSE IT'S VITALLY IMPORTANT --A PSIPROBE WOULD TELL ME, BUT OUT OF RESPECT FOR WHAT WE MEANT TO EACH OTHER, I CANNOT PRY INTO HER THOUGHTS.
I'LL TRY, GABY--I'LL DO MY BEST.

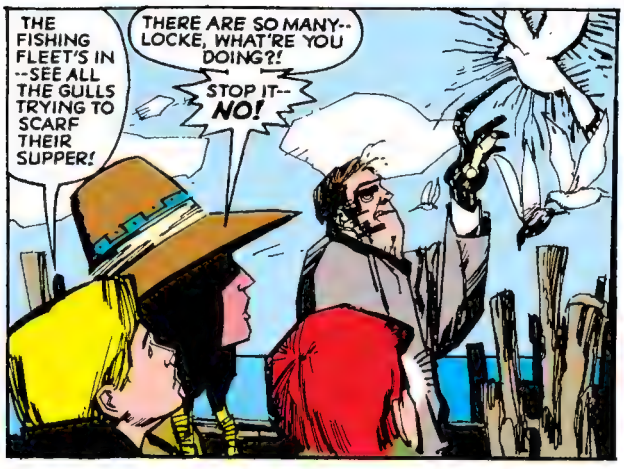

SNOW VALLEY, IN THE BERKSHIRE MOUNTAINS OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS...
...HOME OF, AMONG OTHER THINGS, ONE OF THE NATION'S PREMIER PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOLS...
...THE MASSACHUSETTS ACADEMY.
ITS PRESIDENT IS EMMA FROST--SCION OF NEW ENGLAND MERCHANT ARISTOCRACY, WHOSE ANCESTORS FOUGHT IN THE REVOLUTION AND SAILED CLIPPER SHIPS TO THE FAR CORNERS OF THE EARTH.
SHE IS A MUTANT--A TELEPATH, MUCH LIKE XAVIER--AND AS THE WHITE QUEEN, A RULING MEMBER OF THE INFAMOUS HELLFIRE CLUB.
GO RIGHT IN, MANUEL, MS. FROST IS EXPECTING YOU.
GRACIAS, SENORA HENNESSEY.
THE GOAL OF ITS SECRET INNER CIRCLE IS POWER, PURE AND SIMPLE. THIS CABAL SEEKS TO RULE THE WORLD AND VIEWS SUPER-POWERED MUTANTS AS A PRIMARY MEANS TO THAT END.
SO IN ADDITION TO HER NORMAL STUDENTS ARE A VERY SPECIAL FEW, ANALOGOUS TO XAVIER'S NEW MUTANTS, KNOWN AS THE HELLIONS.
YOU SUMMONED ME, MADAM?
MANUEL ALFONSO RODRIGO de la ROCHA--
--HOW DARE YOU?!!
DOES THAT HURT? POOR EMPATH--IT'S THE MEREST HARBINGER OF WHAT I'VE IN STORE FOR YOU.
AIEOWWW!
YOUR SELF-INDULGENT MANIPULATION OF FIRESTAR'S EMOTIONS HAS QUITE POSSIBLY DEPRIVED THE HELLFIRE CLUB OF AN INVALUABLE ASSET!
IN THE SPACE OF A DAY, YOUR CRUELTY HAS UNDONE YEARS OF WORK!*
*FOR DETAILS AND FURTHER REPERCUSSIONS, SEE X-MEN #193 AND THE FIRESTAR MINI-SERIES, BOTH ON SALE SOON.
--Ann N.


I MEANT NO HARM, I WAS TRYING TO HELP...
LIAR!
YOU WERE PLAYING GAMES--WITH HER, WITH THUNDERBIRD, WITH THE X-MEN.
YOU'VE BEEN A TROUBLE-MAKER FROM THE BEGINNING, A MISERY TO YOUR TEAM-MATES, AN UTTER DISAPPOINTMENT TO ME.
AND I, BOY, HAVE HAD ENOUGH!
SO, "MAJESTY", HAVE I!
NOBODY ADDRESSES A De La ROCHA IN SUCH A MANNER.
WE DO NOT OBEY--WE ARE NOT LACKIES--WE COMMAND!
LET US SEE IF YOUR VAUNTED PSI-TALENTS CAN PROTECT YOU FROM MY EMPATHIC POWERS...
...AS I TURN YOUR RAGE...
...TO LOVE!
YOU DID NOT EXPECT SUCH RESISTANCE--NOR I, IN TRUTH, SO LITTLE.
YOU THOUGHT I WOULD BE PARALYZED WITH TERROR.
OTHERS HAVE MADE THE SAME MISTAKE.
I CAN MAKE YOU DO ANYTHING, MY DEAR, DARLING EMMA--NOTHING IN YOUR LIFE, INCLUDING YOUR LIFE, IS AS IMPORTANT AS MAKING ME HAPPY.

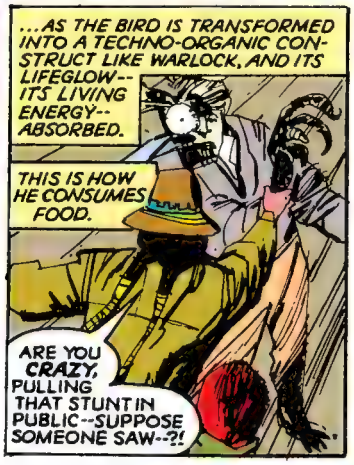

OH, REALLY?
URRRKK!?!
ARROGANT FOOL, TO THINK ME SO EASILY BEATEN! IT WAS AN ACT, DEAR, DARLING MANUEL, TO TEST THE LIMITS OF BOTH YOUR POWER AND AMBITION.
I COULD KILL YOU--SNAP YOUR NECK LIKE THE PROVERBIAL TWIG--AND BELIEVE ME, BOY, I'M TEMPTED.
BUT INSTEAD, I'M PLACING PSYCHIC INHIBITORS IN YOUR BRAIN--UNTIL I REMOVE THEM, YOU CANNOT USE YOUR EMPATHIC TALENT. AND THAT DAY WILL COME WHEN I DECIDE YOU'VE LEARNED YOUR LESSON.
CONSIDER THIS A FINAL WARNING, MANUEL--
--IGNORE IT AT YOUR PERIL.

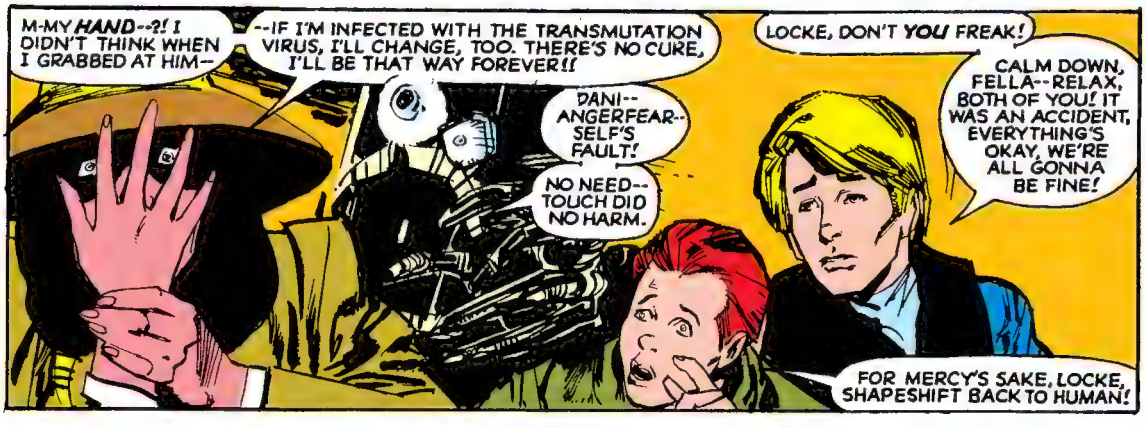

ULLAPOOL, ON THE WESTERN COAST OF SCOTLAND...
HOW MANY PICTURES YOU GONNA TAKE, DOUG?

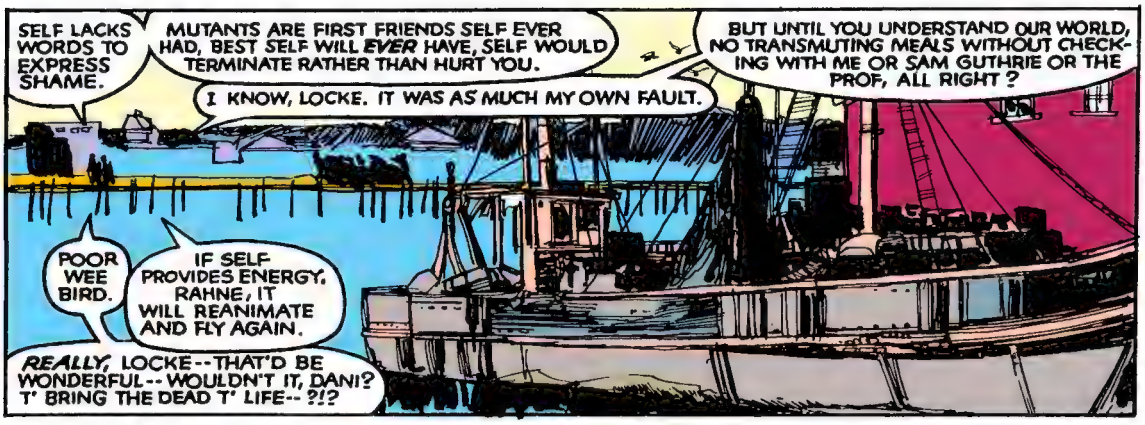

AS MANY AS I CAN GET, CHIEF.
WARLOCK, REMEMBER WHAT THE PROFESSOR SAID--AROUND HUMANS YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO LOOK HUMAN!
APOLOGIES. SELF FORGOT.

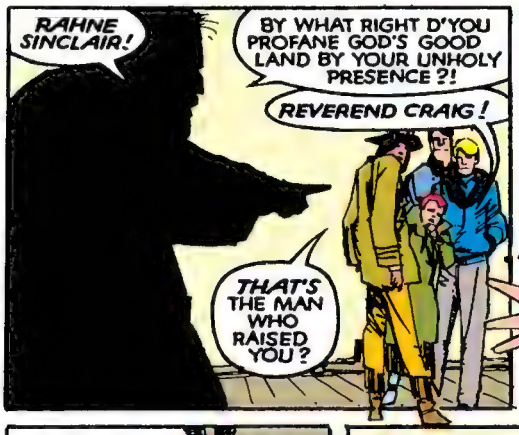

THE FISHING FLEET'S IN --SEE ALL THE GULLS TRYING TO SCARF THEIR SUPPER!
THERE ARE SO MANY--LOCKE, WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
STOP IT--NO!

HER CRY COMES TOO LATE...

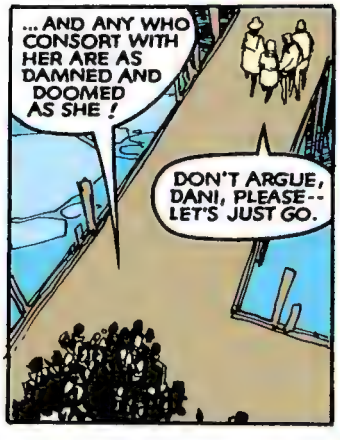

...AS THE BIRD IS TRANSFORMED INTO A TECHNO-ORGANIC CONSTRUCT LIKE WARLOCK, AND ITS LIFEGLOW--ITS LIVING ENERGY--ABSORBED.
THIS IS HOW HE CONSUMES FOOD.
ARE YOU CRAZY, PULLING THAT STUNT IN PUBLIC--SUPPOSE SOMEONE SAW--?!

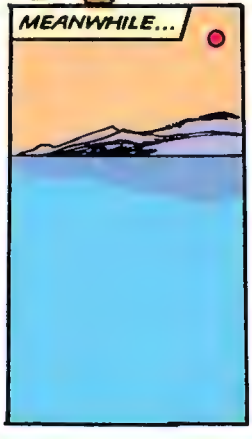

M-MY HAND--?! I DIDN'T THINK WHEN I GRABBED AT HIM--
--IF I'M INFECTED WITH THE TRANSMUTATION VIRUS, I'LL CHANGE, TOO. THERE'S NO CURE, I'LL BE THAT WAY FOREVER!!
DANI--ANGERFEAR--SELF'S FAULT!
NO NEED--TOUCH DID NO HARM.
LOCKE, DON'T YOU FREAK!
CALM DOWN, FELLA--RELAX, BOTH OF YOU! IT WAS AN ACCIDENT, EVERYTHING'S OKAY, WE'RE ALL GONNA BE FINE!
FOR MERCY'S SAKE, LOCKE, SHAPESHIFT BACK TO HUMAN!


SELF LACKS WORDS TO EXPRESS SHAME.
MUTANTS ARE FIRST FRIENDS SELF EVER HAD, BEST SELF WILL EVER HAVE, SELF WOULD TERMINATE RATHER THAN HURT YOU.
BUT UNTIL YOU UNDERSTAND OUR WORLD, NO TRANSMUTING MEALS WITHOUT CHECKING WITH ME OR SAM GUTHRIE OR THE PROF, ALL RIGHT ?
I KNOW, LOCKE. IT WAS AS MUCH MY OWN FAULT.
POOR WEE BIRD.
IF SELF PROVIDES ENERGY, RAHNE, IT WILL REANIMATE AND FLY AGAIN.
REALLY, LOCKE--THAT'D BE WONDERFUL-- WOULDN'T IT, DANI? T' BRING THE DEAD T' LIFE-- ?!?

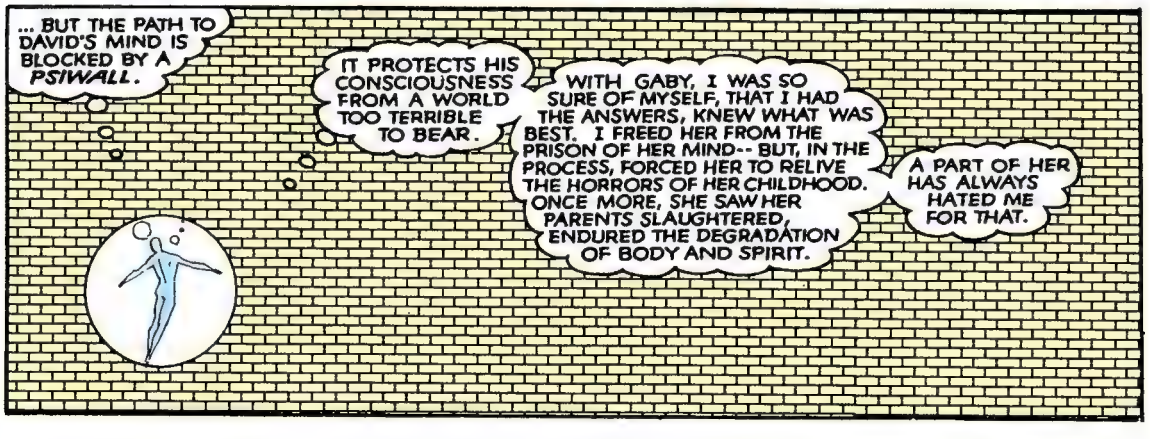

RAHNE SINCLAIR!
BY WHAT RIGHT D'YOU PROFANE GOD'S GOOD LAND BY YOUR UNHOLY PRESENCE ?!
REVEREND CRAIG !
THAT'S THE MAN WHO RAISED YOU ?

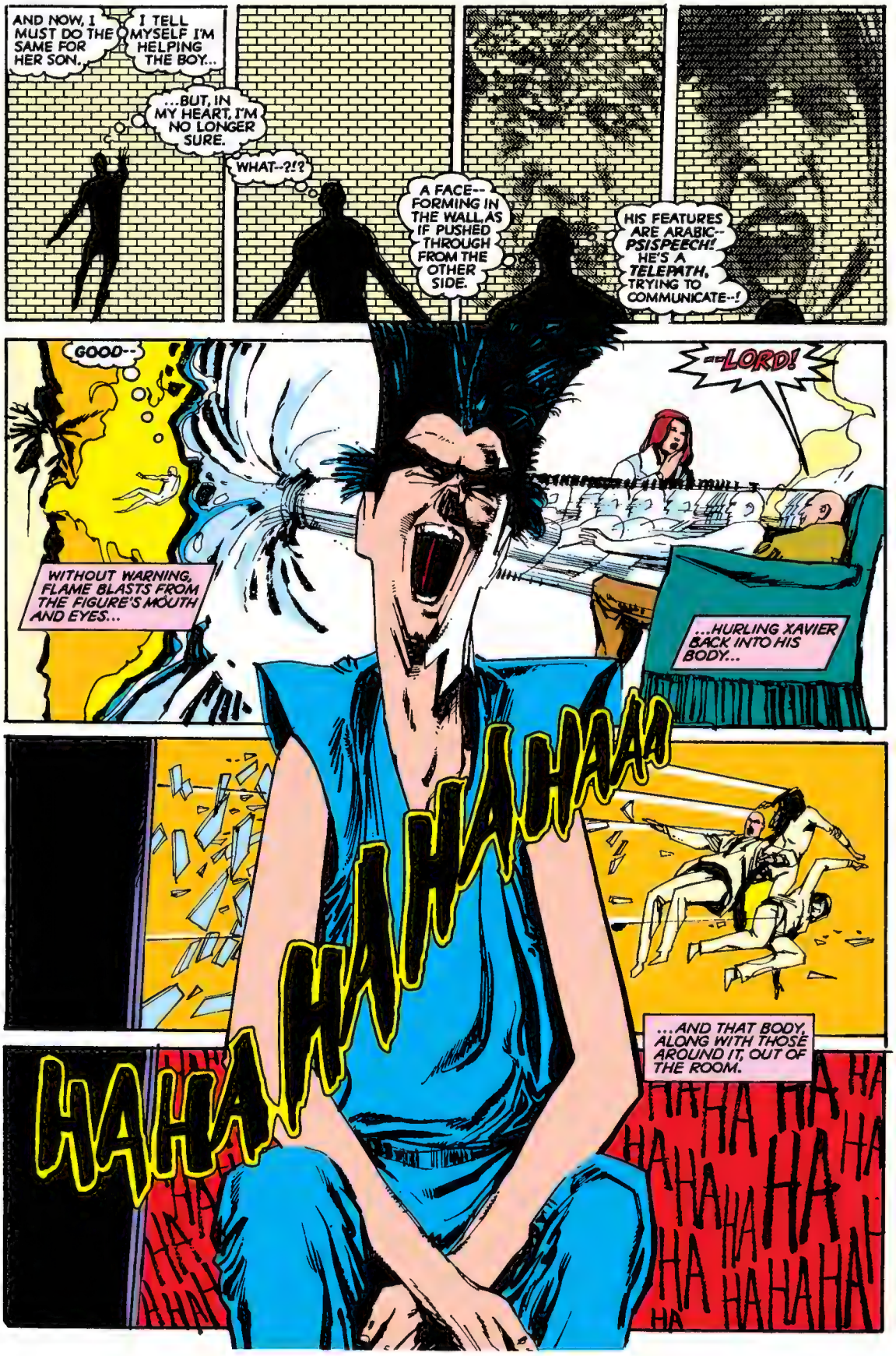
LEAVE THIS PLACE, YE DINNA BELONG HERE, AMONG TRUE PEOPLE.
HOLD YUIR TONGUE, MISSY! YON BRAT IS A SPAWN OF SATAN...
LAY OFF, MISTER. WE'RE MINDING OUR OWN BUSINESS, WHY DON'T YOU DO THE SAME?!

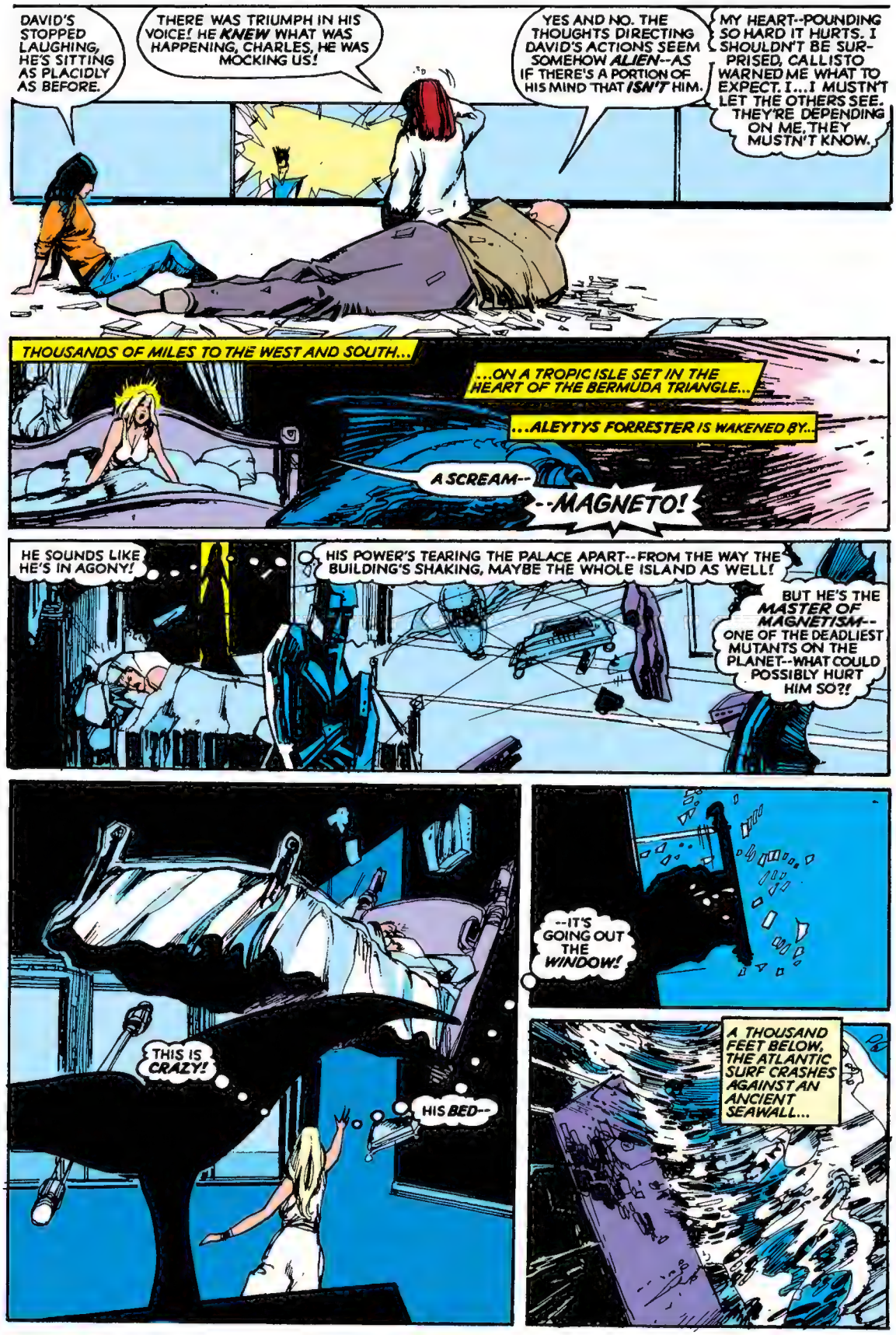

... AND ANY WHO CONSORT WITH HER ARE AS DAMNED AND DOOMED AS SHE !
DON'T ARGUE, DANI, PLEASE-- LET'S JUST GO.

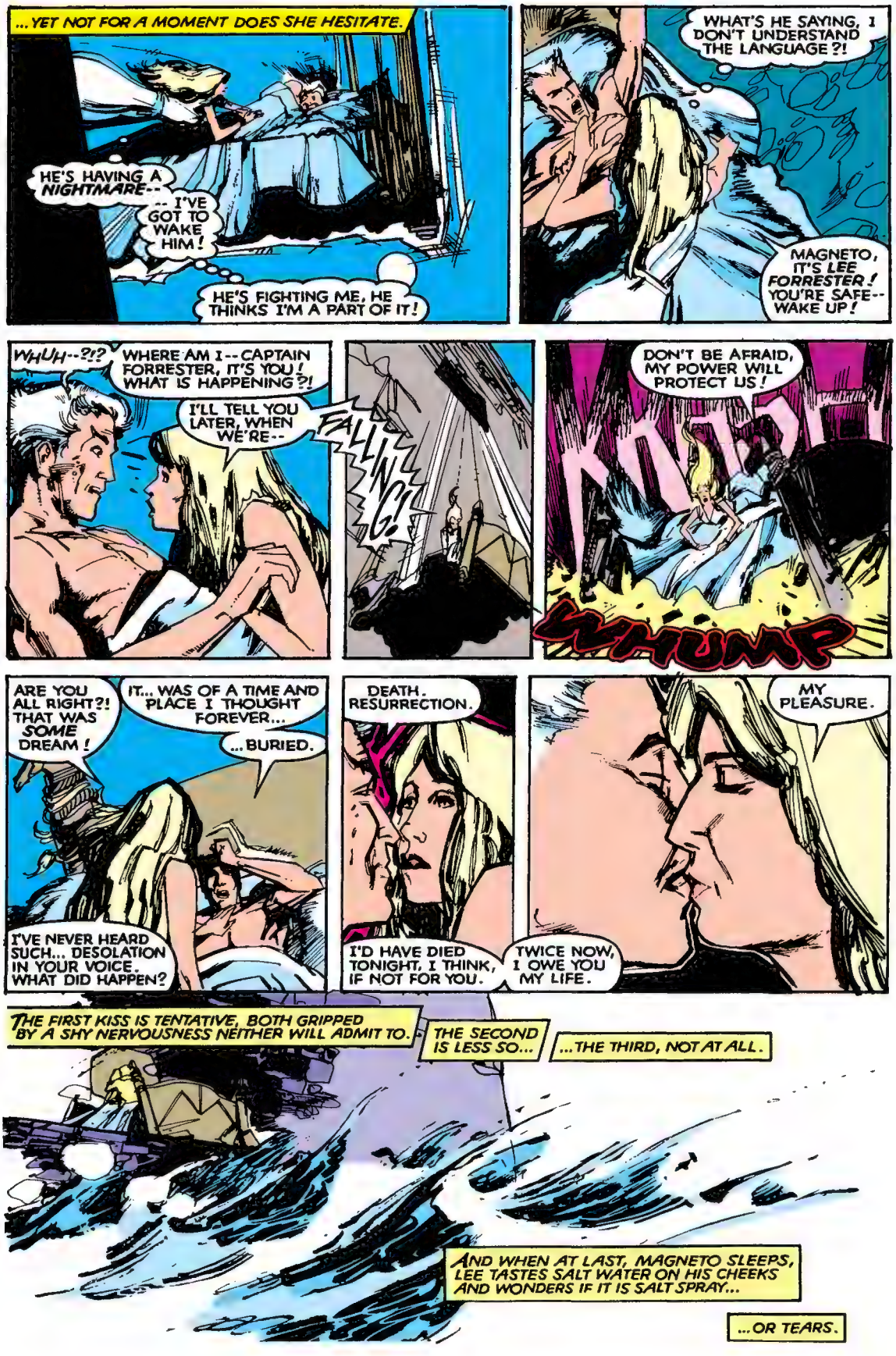

MEANWHILE...

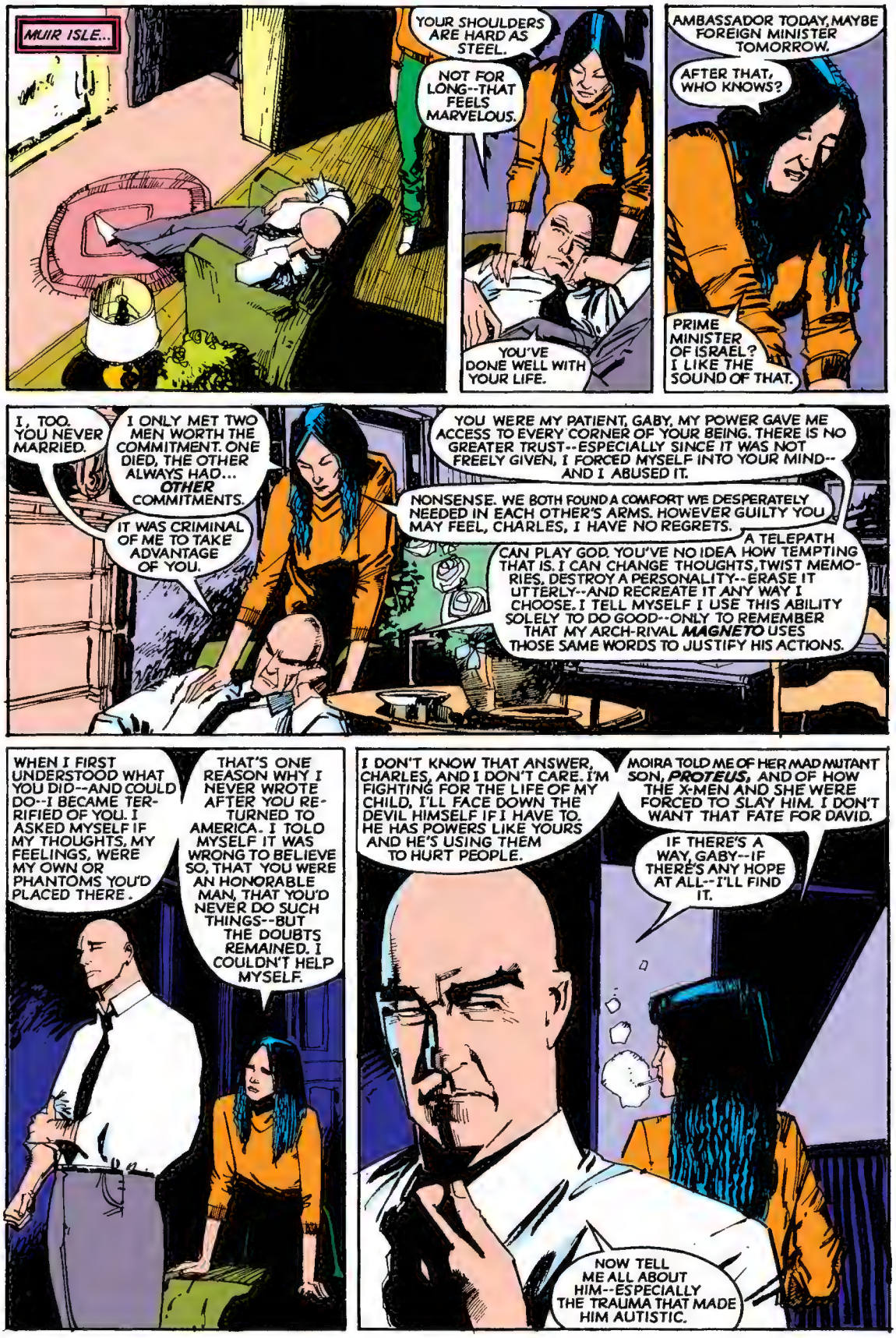
I SENSE TROUBLE WITH THE MUTANTS-- THEY'RE UPSET, ESPECIALLY RAHNE, BUT IT DOESN'T APPEAR TO REQUIRE MY INTERVENTION.
THAT'S FORTUNATE, BECAUSE I SUSPECT I'LL NEED ALL MY PSYCHIC FACULTIES FOR THE WORK AT HAND.
MY SPIRIT-SELF HAS REACHED THE ASTRAL PLANE...

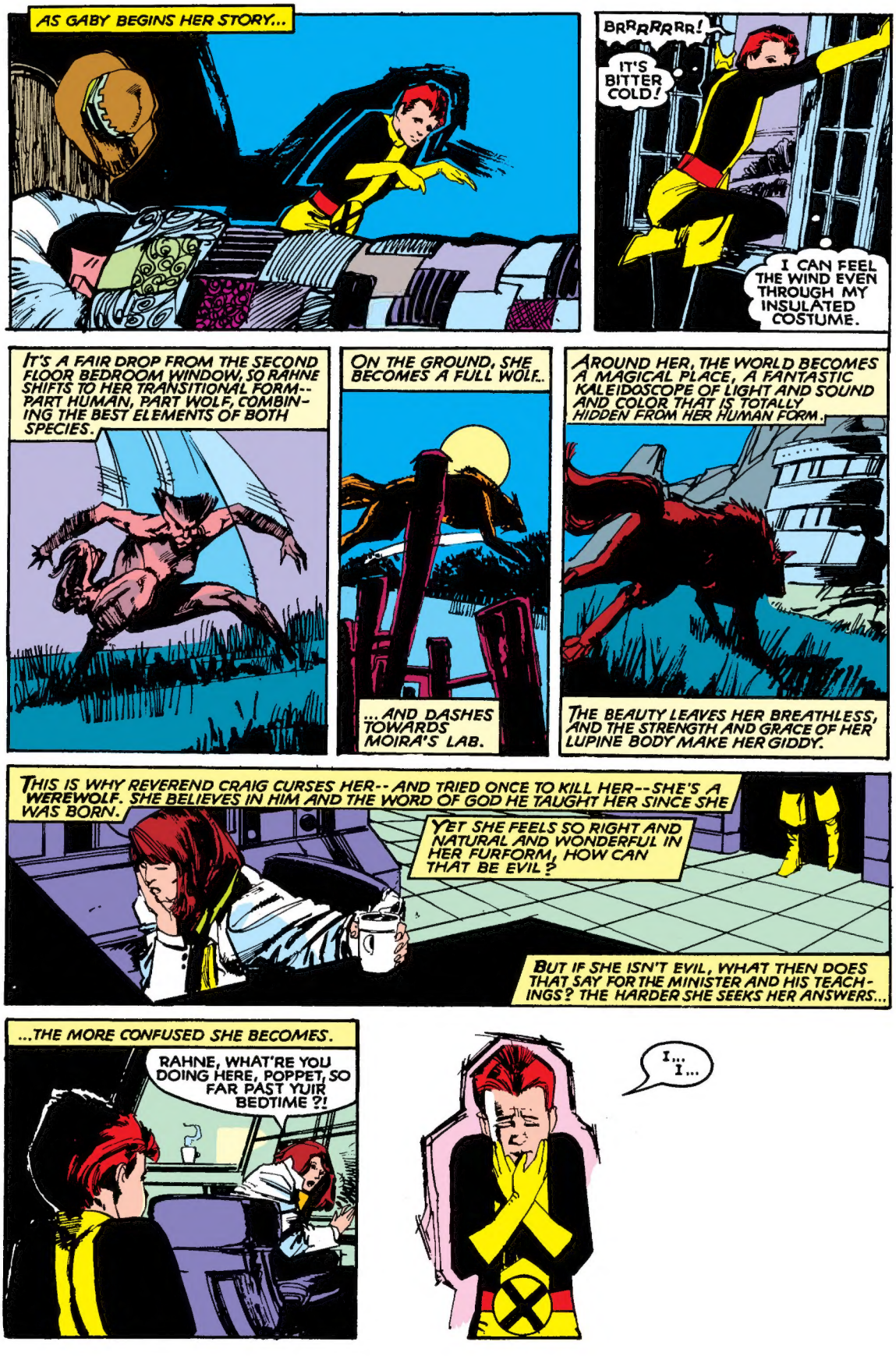

... BUT THE PATH TO DAVID'S MIND IS BLOCKED BY A PSIWALL.
IT PROTECTS HIS CONSCIOUSNESS FROM A WORLD TOO TERRIBLE TO BEAR.
WITH GABY, I WAS SO SURE OF MYSELF, THAT I HAD THE ANSWERS, KNEW WHAT WAS BEST. I FREED HER FROM THE PRISON OF HER MIND-- BUT, IN THE PROCESS, FORCED HER TO RELIVE THE HORRORS OF HER CHILDHOOD. ONCE MORE, SHE SAW HER PARENTS SLAUGHTERED, ENDURED THE DEGRADATION OF BODY AND SPIRIT.
A PART OF HER HAS ALWAYS HATED ME FOR THAT.


AND NOW, I MUST DO THE SAME FOR HER SON.
I TELL MYSELF I'M HELPING THE BOY...
...BUT, IN MY HEART, I'M NO LONGER SURE.
WHAT--?!?
A FACE--- FORMING IN THE WALL AS IF PUSHED THROUGH FROM THE OTHER SIDE.
HIS FEATURES ARE ARABIC-- PSISPEECH! HE'S A TELEPATH, TRYING TO COMMUNICATE--!
GOOD--
---LORD!
WITHOUT WARNING, FLAME BLASTS FROM THE FIGURE'S MOUTH AND EYES...
...HURLING XAVIER BACK INTO HIS BODY...
HAHAHAAA
...AND THAT BODY, ALONG WITH THOSE AROUND IT, OUT OF THE ROOM.
HAHAHAHA


DAVID'S STOPPED LAUGHING, HE'S SITTING AS PLACIDLY AS BEFORE.
THERE WAS TRIUMPH IN HIS VOICE! HE KNEW WHAT WAS HAPPENING, CHARLES, HE WAS MOCKING US!
YES AND NO. THE THOUGHTS DIRECTING DAVID'S ACTIONS SEEM SOMEHOW ALIEN--AS IF THERE'S A PORTION OF HIS MIND THAT ISN'T HIM.
MY HEART--POUNDING SO HARD IT HURTS. I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED, CALLISTO WARNED ME WHAT TO EXPECT. I...I MUSTN'T LET THE OTHERS SEE. THEY'RE DEPENDING ON ME. THEY MUSTN'T KNOW.
THOUSANDS OF MILES TO THE WEST AND SOUTH...
...ON A TROPIC ISLE SET IN THE HEART OF THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE...
...ALEYTYS FORRESTER IS WAKENED BY...
A SCREAM--
--MAGNETO!
HE SOUNDS LIKE HE'S IN AGONY!
HIS POWER'S TEARING THE PALACE APART--FROM THE WAY THE BUILDING'S SHAKING, MAYBE THE WHOLE ISLAND AS WELL!
BUT HE'S THE MASTER OF MAGNETISM--ONE OF THE DEADLIEST MUTANTS ON THE PLANET--WHAT COULD POSSIBLY HURT HIM SO?!
THIS IS CRAZY!
HIS BED--
--IT'S GOING OUT THE WINDOW!
A THOUSAND FEET BELOW, THE ATLANTIC SURF CRASHES AGAINST AN ANCIENT SEAWALL...


...YET NOT FOR A MOMENT DOES SHE HESITATE.
HE'S HAVING A NIGHTMARE--
-- I'VE GOT TO WAKE HIM!
HE'S FIGHTING ME, HE THINKS I'M A PART OF IT!
WHAT'S HE SAYING, I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE LANGUAGE?!
MAGNETO, IT'S LEE FORRESTER! YOU'RE SAFE-- WAKE UP!
WHUH--?!?
WHERE AM I -- CAPTAIN FORRESTER, IT'S YOU! WHAT IS HAPPENING?!
I'LL TELL YOU LATER, WHEN WE'RE--
FALLING!
DON'T BE AFRAID, MY POWER WILL PROTECT US!
KRRT
KUHUMP
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?! THAT WAS SOME DREAM!
IT... WAS OF A TIME AND PLACE I THOUGHT FOREVER...
...BURIED.
I'VE NEVER HEARD SUCH... DESOLATION IN YOUR VOICE. WHAT DID HAPPEN?
DEATH. RESURRECTION.
I'D HAVE DIED TONIGHT, I THINK, IF NOT FOR YOU.
TWICE NOW, I OWE YOU MY LIFE.
MY PLEASURE.
THE FIRST KISS IS TENTATIVE, BOTH GRIPPED BY A SHY NERVOUSNESS NEITHER WILL ADMIT TO.
THE SECOND IS LESS SO...
...THE THIRD, NOT AT ALL.
AND WHEN AT LAST, MAGNETO SLEEPS, LEE TASTES SALT WATER ON HIS CHEEKS AND WONDERS IF IT IS SALT SPRAY...
...OR TEARS.


MUIR ISLE...
YOUR SHOULDERS ARE HARD AS STEEL.
NOT FOR LONG--THAT FEELS MARVELOUS.
YOU'VE DONE WELL WITH YOUR LIFE.
AMBASSADOR TODAY, MAYBE FOREIGN MINISTER TOMORROW.
AFTER THAT, WHO KNOWS?
PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL? I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT.
I, TOO. YOU NEVER MARRIED.
I ONLY MET TWO MEN WORTH THE COMMITMENT. ONE DIED, THE OTHER ALWAYS HAD... OTHER COMMITMENTS.
IT WAS CRIMINAL OF ME TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOU.
YOU WERE MY PATIENT, GABY. MY POWER GAVE ME ACCESS TO EVERY CORNER OF YOUR BEING. THERE IS NO GREATER TRUST--ESPECIALLY SINCE IT WAS NOT FREELY GIVEN. I FORCED MYSELF INTO YOUR MIND--AND I ABUSED IT.
NONSENSE. WE BOTH FOUND A COMFORT WE DESPERATELY NEEDED IN EACH OTHER'S ARMS. HOWEVER GUILTY YOU MAY FEEL, CHARLES, I HAVE NO REGRETS.
A TELEPATH CAN PLAY GOD. YOU'VE NO IDEA HOW TEMPTING THAT IS. I CAN CHANGE THOUGHTS, TWIST MEMORIES, DESTROY A PERSONALITY--ERASE IT UTTERLY--AND RECREATE IT ANY WAY I CHOOSE. I TELL MYSELF I USE THIS ABILITY SOLELY TO DO GOOD--ONLY TO REMEMBER THAT MY ARCH-RIVAL MAGNETO USES THOSE SAME WORDS TO JUSTIFY HIS ACTIONS.
WHEN I FIRST UNDERSTOOD WHAT YOU DID--AND COULD DO--I BECAME TERRIFIED OF YOU. I ASKED MYSELF IF MY THOUGHTS, MY FEELINGS, WERE MY OWN OR PHANTOMS YOU'D PLACED THERE.
THAT'S ONE REASON WHY I NEVER WROTE AFTER YOU RETURNED TO AMERICA. I TOLD MYSELF IT WAS WRONG TO BELIEVE SO, THAT YOU WERE AN HONORABLE MAN, THAT YOU'D NEVER DO SUCH THINGS--BUT THE DOUBTS REMAINED. I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF.
I DON'T KNOW THAT ANSWER, CHARLES, AND I DON'T CARE. I'M FIGHTING FOR THE LIFE OF MY CHILD, I'LL FACE DOWN THE DEVIL HIMSELF IF I HAVE TO. HE HAS POWERS LIKE YOURS AND HE'S USING THEM TO HURT PEOPLE.
MOIRA TOLD ME OF HER MAD MUTANT SON, PROTEUS, AND OF HOW THE X-MEN AND SHE WERE FORCED TO SLAY HIM. I DON'T WANT THAT FATE FOR DAVID.
IF THERE'S A WAY, GABY--IF THERE'S ANY HOPE AT ALL--I'LL FIND IT.
NOW TELL ME ALL ABOUT HIM--ESPECIALLY THE TRAUMA THAT MADE HIM AUTISTIC.


AS GABY BEGINS HER STORY...
BRRRRRRR!
IT'S BITTER COLD!
I CAN FEEL THE WIND EVEN THROUGH MY INSULATED COSTUME.
IT'S A FAIR DROP FROM THE SECOND FLOOR BEDROOM WINDOW, SO RAHNE SHIFTS TO HER TRANSITIONAL FORM-- PART HUMAN, PART WOLF, COMBINING THE BEST ELEMENTS OF BOTH SPECIES.
ON THE GROUND, SHE BECOMES A FULL WOLF..
...AND DASHES TOWARDS MOIRA'S LAB.
AROUND HER, THE WORLD BECOMES A MAGICAL PLACE, A FANTASTIC KALEIDOSCOPE OF LIGHT AND SOUND AND COLOR THAT IS TOTALLY HIDDEN FROM HER HUMAN FORM.
THE BEAUTY LEAVES HER BREATHLESS, AND THE STRENGTH AND GRACE OF HER LUPINE BODY MAKE HER GIDDY.
THIS IS WHY REVEREND CRAIG CURSES HER-- AND TRIED ONCE TO KILL HER--SHE'S A WEREWOLF. SHE BELIEVES IN HIM AND THE WORD OF GOD HE TAUGHT HER SINCE SHE WAS BORN.
YET SHE FEELS SO RIGHT AND NATURAL AND WONDERFUL IN HER FURFORM, HOW CAN THAT BE EVIL?
BUT IF SHE ISN'T EVIL, WHAT THEN DOES THAT SAY FOR THE MINISTER AND HIS TEACHINGS? THE HARDER SHE SEEKS HER ANSWERS...
...THE MORE CONFUSED SHE BECOMES.
RAHNE, WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE, POPPET, SO FAR PAST YUIR BEDTIME ?!
I... I...

Bullpen Bulletins

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The year Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Four was the most successful year in Marvel's glorious history — the latest in a string of six record years in succession. Not too bad, huh? It's *still* the Marvel Age . . . and we're gaining speed! We work hard around here trying to deserve your support . . . and we really appreciate it. Thanks a lot, from all of us.

HOW DO YOU FOLLOW AN ACT LIKE THAT?

I'm *so* glad you asked. What we've got for 1985 is something to see. For instance, *SECRET WARS II*. That's right — the most successful comics series in a quarter century is going to have a *sequel*, written by me, penciled by Sal Buscema, and inked by Steve Leialoha. It will be a nine-issue limited series, the first issue of which will be on sale in April. It'll feature *every single Marvel hero* and the story told in *Secret Wars II* will cross over into every single Marvel Universe title! It's going to make history. Watch for it.

There are many more nifty things coming of course. Watch the hype box!

AND NOW, CONTINUING MY PROUD TRADITION . . .

Once again, I will *not* present you with a list of New Year's Resolutions. I, frankly, usually find other people's resolutions cliché and tiresome. I'll bet you do, too.

OH, AND BY THE WAY . . .

If you live near New York, or if you're ever visiting here, be sure to stop and see the BARKING DOG MUSEUM. It's small — basically just the storefront window of 46 Grand Street in Manhattan's colorful Soho district — but worth a look. It features the surrealist-inspired, mixed-media assemblages of one Richard Parker, visual artist and . . . strange person. If the name sounds familiar, it's because Rick also *letters* some of your favorite Marvel titles — which isn't why I'm plugging his showplace. The fact is, I think Rick's work is *fantastic*. Years from now, when he's garnered the acclaim from the art world that he's sure to get, I'll be proudly pointing out to everyone that I knew it all along!

We were all greatly saddened to learn of the death of Don Newton last August 19. He was an excellent artist and a fine man.

The comics business, and the world, also lost Phil Seuling during 1984. Phil was the comics distributor who virtually singlehandedly created the direct sales distribution system. We all owe him a lot. He was a wonderful man, and we'll miss him.

Best,

Jim Shooter
Editor in Chief

HYPE BOX

STAR COMICS — It's the birth of a whole new line of comics, and you're all invited to celebrate! Join the stars — PLANET TERRY, WALLY THE WIZARD, TOP DOG, HEATHCLIFF, STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE, and the Fraggles of FRAGGLE ROCK — in the fun-filled first issues of their own comic books! Laughs, adventure, jokes, intrigue — they're all here in each Star Comic! If you want a rollicking good time, don't miss a single Star! On sale *now* wherever you buy Marvel Comics!

MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS #12 — This is it, the dynamic conclusion to the most spectacular war ever presented in the history of comics! You've been witnessing the alliances, seeing the battles, and watching the mystery grow for a full year. Now, at last, you will find out the awesome secret of the Beyonder! Join JIM SHOOTER, MIKE ZECK and JOHN BEATTY in this universe-shaking, double-sized *final issue extravaganza!*

WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #1 — Spidey's adventures continue in this, his brand-new comic title! Or are his adventures coming to a frightening finish when he faces the threat of his deadly Black Costume? Don't miss "Till Death Do Us Part," by LOUISE SIMONSON, GREG LAROCQUE and JIM MOONEY!

ROM #65 — It's been building up for over five years, and now it's coming to a mind-numbing conclusion! That's right, it's the *end of the Wraith War*, with the Dire Wraiths making an all-out assault on mankind! Standing between them and victory are Rom, the Avengers, the Defenders, and the X-Men! (But where are the Fantastic Four? Find out in *FF #277!*) Story by BILL MANTLO! Art by STEVE DITKO and P. CRAIG RUSSELL!

THE OFFICIAL MARVEL INDEX TO THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #1 — This premiere issue gives you the complete lowdown on what happened in the first 29 issues of THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! Included are full-color cover reproductions, complete creator credits and major character appearances for each issue, *and* a synopsis of every story! Compiler GEORGE OLSHEVSKY brings you a mountain of information in a clear, concise style! And this is only the beginning! No true Spider-Fan can afford to miss this one — look for the JOHN BYRNE cover in comics shops everywhere!

CHECK LIST

STAR COMICS

- ☐ **PLANET TERRY #1** — Join Terry and his friends as they search the galaxy for Terry's parents!
- ☐ **FRAGGLE ROCK #1** — The stars of television become the stars of their own comic book! The fun never stops at Fraggle Rock!
- ☐ **STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE #1** — Fun and surprises await you with Strawberry Shortcake and her friends! Introducing Strawberry's nemesis, Raisin Cane!
- ☐ **WALLY THE WIZARD #1** — Wally's finding out that it's not easy being an apprentice wizard — so many things can go wrong!
- ☐ **TOP DOG #1** — Not only can Top Dog talk, but he also leads a secret life! Find out more in this first issue!
- ☐ **HEATHCLIFF #1** — That world-famous cat is getting his own comic book, and the laughs are just beginning!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

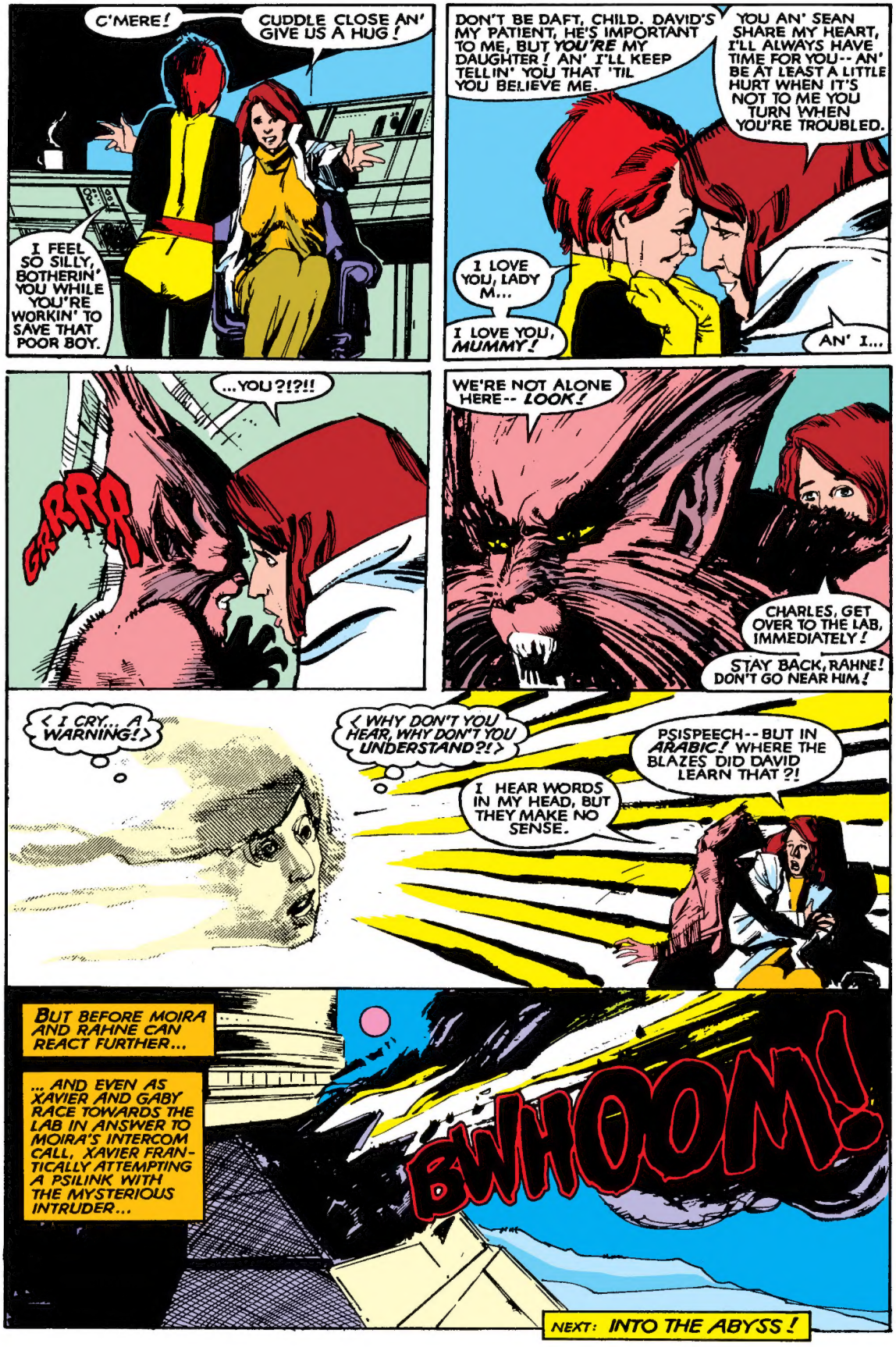
- ☐ **THE THING #22**
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #217**
- ☐ **NEW MUTANTS #26**
- ☐ **WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #1** — A new monthly comic featuring your favorite web-slinger! See Hype Box.
- ☐ **RED SONJA #6**
- ☐ **ICEMAN (Limited Series) #3**
- ☐ **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (Limited Series) #3**
- ☐ **MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS (Limited Series) #12** — The end of the war to end all wars! See Hype Box!
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #263** — Featuring the Amazing Spider-Kid!
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #304** — The shattering climax! Don't miss it!
- ☐ **INDIANA JONES #28**
- ☐ **POWER PACK #9**
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS #7**
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #21**
- ☐ **DR. STRANGE #70**
- ☐ **DUNE (Limited Series) #1** — The Marvel adaptation of the hit science fiction movie, by RALPH MACCHIO and BILL SIENKIEWICZ.
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #306**
- ☐ **AVENGERS #254** — "Absolute Vision!" It's absolutely the end!
- ☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #169**
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #174** — Reprinting "The Molten Man Regrets . . . !," by STAN LEE and STEVE DITKO, from *Amazing Spider-Man #35*.
- ☐ **X-MEN #192**
- ☐ **ROM #65** — The issue you've been waiting for! See Hype Box!
- ☐ **POWER MAN / IRON FIST #116**
- ☐ **KULL THE CONQUEROR #9**
- ☐ **G.I. JOE #34**
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #276** — Featuring two separate stories at the same time together! Wow!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #193** — Guest-starring the *West Coast Avengers!*
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #101**
- ☐ **DEFENDERS #142**
- ☐ **STAR WARS #94**
- ☐ **THOR #354**
- ☐ **KITTY PRYDE AND WOLVERINE (Limited Series) #6**
- ☐ **2010 (Limited Series) #1** — The space odyssey continues in this official Marvel adaptation of the most eagerly awaited movie sequel of all!
- ☐ **THE OFFICIAL MARVEL INDEX TO THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #1** — The complete guide to Spidey's spectacular career! See Hype Box.
- ☐ **DR. WHO #7**

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #110**
- ☐ **MARVEL AGE #25**

EPIC COMICS

- ☐ **GROO THE WANDERER #2**
- ☐ **DREADSTAR #17**
- ☐ **ALIEN LEGION #6**
- ☐ **SISTERHOOD OF STEEL #2**
- ☐ **TIME SPIRITS #3**


C'MERE!
CUDDLE CLOSE AN' GIVE US A HUG!
I FEEL SO SILLY, BOTHERIN' YOU WHILE YOU'RE WORKIN' TO SAVE THAT POOR BOY.
DON'T BE DAFT, CHILD. DAVID'S MY PATIENT, HE'S IMPORTANT TO ME, BUT YOU'RE MY DAUGHTER! AN' I'LL KEEP TELLIN' YOU THAT 'TIL YOU BELIEVE ME.
YOU AN' SEAN SHARE MY HEART, I'LL ALWAYS HAVE TIME FOR YOU-- AN' BE AT LEAST A LITTLE HURT WHEN IT'S NOT TO ME YOU TURN WHEN YOU'RE TROUBLED.
I LOVE YOU, LADY M...
I LOVE YOU, MUMMY!
AN' I...
...YOU?!?!!
GRRRR
WE'RE NOT ALONE HERE-- LOOK!
CHARLES, GET OVER TO THE LAB, IMMEDIATELY!
STAY BACK, RAHNE! DON'T GO NEAR HIM!
< I CRY... A WARNING!>
< WHY DON'T YOU HEAR, WHY DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?!>
I HEAR WORDS IN MY HEAD, BUT THEY MAKE NO SENSE.
PSISPEECH-- BUT IN ARABIC! WHERE THE BLAZES DID DAVID LEARN THAT?!
BUT BEFORE MOIRA AND RAHNE CAN REACT FURTHER...
... AND EVEN AS XAVIER AND GABY RACE TOWARDS THE LAB IN ANSWER TO MOIRA'S INTERCOM CALL, XAVIER FRANTICALLY ATTEMPTING A PSILINK WITH THE MYSTERIOUS INTRUDER...
BWHOOM!
NEXT: INTO THE ABYSS!

Digitized by

Syl3nt Bob and PhD

He's a gonna be OKAY!

I think...